



# 077 BEAT

March 2023

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## Our March Show:

### Big Sirs of Swing and the Righetti High School Jazz Band

by Rhonda Cardinal

The Big Sirs of Swing and the Righetti High School Jazz Band will be playing "Hot Swingin' Jazz" at the Basin Street Regulars' Sunday afternoon Concert 1:00 to 4:00 on Sunday, February 26th. The show will take place at the Pismo Beach Veteran's Memorial Building at 780 Bello Street in Pismo Beach. Jam session starts at 11:00. Bring your instrument and join in. Admission is \$5 members, \$10 Non-members. Food and drinks are available.



Tickets available online at [my805tix.com](https://my805tix.com) or: <https://my805tix.com/e/bsr-big-sirs-of-swing-03-23>

### *Featured Band: Big Sirs of Swing*

Our Feature Band for the March 26th show will be The Big Sirs of Swing. They were one of the local bands we featured at Jazz Jubilee by the Sea and they were a big hit.

The "Big Sirs of Swing" is a Gypsy Jazz Quartet based on the Central Coast of California. They play the music stylings of Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli, who originated the Gypsy Jazz genre in France in the 1930s. Fun and Danceable music!

### *Opening Act: Righetti High School Jazz Band*



Our March opening band is the Ernest Righetti High School Jazz Band. This band is comprised of high school musicians playing literature of varying styles of jazz such as swing, bebop, funk, etc. The goal of the band is education through performance. The jazz band works to bring forth the rich history of jazz and combo playing to the modern stage through the performance of standards and other classic charts. Beyond school functions, the band has been asked to play music at events such as fundraisers, dinners, festivals, and award ceremonies. They last performed at a BSR Sunday session in February of 2022 and were very well received. We are happy to have them back again.

**Schedule for Sunday the 26th:**

11:00-12:30 Jam Session  
 12:30-12:50 Clean-up/Set-up  
 12:50-1:45 Righetti HS Jazz Band  
 1:45-2:00 Reset  
 2:00-4:00 Big Sirs of Swing with a break

**The Kitchen will be Open**

Kim Melin will not be able to provide our lunches at the food court anymore. This is sad for all of us but necessary. She has too many other obligations right now to make it work for her. We are actively seeking a replacement and have a few candidates in work. The menu is TBD, but I'm sure it will be delicious. We will release more details when we have them.

**President's Message**

Longtime BSR member and supporter, Pat Spino passed away this month. This was a shock to me. Pat was one of the "old guard;" she had been around since we joined the club in 2001. Her original festival duty was getting deals from all of the hotels for our Jubilee attendees. She hosted many memorable cocktail parties at her house and loved to work the Hospitality Room. She always wanted to honor the musicians, who brought us so much joy.

She was very active when we joined BSR, going to every West Coast festival with her

long-time partner Richard Acevedo. When Richard passed about 10 years ago, she disappeared from the scene for awhile, but then started becoming more active again around 2015.

Last year, she lost her ability to drive, and we volunteered to transport her to Three Rivers, where she would meet up with her friend Judy, who would drive her around for the weekend. We were going up in our motor home and Pat came fully prepared, bringing all manner of snacks and drinks in her carry-ons. Jeff drove while Pat and I sat in the back, talking, drinking wine and passing little goodies (not wine) to Jeff in the front.

When we were lining up our volunteers for Jubilee in January, I called Pat and asked her if she wanted to work Hospitality, as we needed some volunteers. She very enthusiastically agreed and worked many hours over the weekend. That is the last time I saw or spoke to her.

I knew a move to Clovis was in the works, something her children had been arranging for her so they could help her in her later years. I sent her an e-mail about two weeks ago to find out if she had actually moved. Her son informed me via an e-mail that her health had taken a turn for the worse, and she was in Clovis in hospice. A few days later, Sandy let us know she had passed.

I am greatly saddened by her passing. I was looking forward to picking her up in Fresno and taking her to Three Rivers again, per the plan we discussed in January. I will miss her very much. Another BSR light has gone out.

Rhonda Cardinal, President  
 Basin Street Regulars

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## Jubilee Corner

by Rhonda Cardinal



Seems like January is not a good fit for us for Jubilee. Especially not in the rain!

What do you think for 2024:

May 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> 2024?

or October 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> 2024?

or none?

## In the Wings

Our Featured Band for the April 30<sup>th</sup> show will be the **Dawn Lambeth Jazz Band**. Take a walk "On the Sunnyside of the Street" with jazz vocalist Dawn Lambeth as she delights you with her effervescent renditions of songs from the Swing Era, evoking the bathtub gin of Boardwalk Empire as well as the top hats and tails of the Great Gatsby. You'll think you've traveled back in time to an old fashioned supper club as you journey from hot swing tunes of the 1920's to romantic ballads of the Big Band Era. Dawn recently played at Jazz Bash by the Bay in Monterey, wowing the audience at every set. She will also be playing this year at the Three Rivers Jazz Affair.

Our April opening band is the **Tevis Ranger Jazz Ensemble**. The Tevis Ranger Jazz Ensemble from Bakersfield California is made up of a select group of 7th and 8th grade musicians from Tevis Junior High in the Panama-Buena Vista Union School District.

Under the direction of BSR member Kelly Willey, the band proudly represents their school and district at many events, including the Bakersfield Jazz Workshop, The Dos Pueblos Jazz Festival, Bakersfield College Jazz Day, and various local service clubs. They are happy to be back playing in public for audiences and thrilled to return to the Basin Street Regulars Sunday Session.

Over the last several years, many Tevis Rangers have attended the Teagarden Jazz Camp in Pollack Pines, funded by jazz scholarships from the Basin Street Regulars. They performed so well they were featured at the 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2023 Jazz Jubilees by the Sea

## House Concert at the Cardinals

The Cardinals hosted a two-piano house concert on February 16<sup>th</sup>, four days after they returned from Fresno. This concert featured Carl Sonny Leyland on one piano and vocals, with Ethan Leinwand & Valerie Jo Kirchoff, (also known as the St. Louis Steady Grinders) on the other. For fans of early jazz, blues and ragtime, Carl Sonny Leyland needed no introduction. A regular on the festival circuit, Leyland has established himself as one of the great jazz masters of our time.

The St. Louis Steady Grinders perform old-school, long lost, low-down piano blues from St. Louis and beyond. The duo, consisting of powerhouse vocalist Valerie Kirchoff (aka Miss Jubilee) and barrelhouse pianist Ethan Leinwand, bring the joy and authenticity back into a forgotten repertoire.

The last time we hosted this combination at our house was in February 2019, just a few short weeks before the pandemic.

We had 40 people reserve seating and we were actually able to get 40 seats in our living room. I had prepared two different one-pot meals for all to enjoy as well as several cases of wine. Robert Dias, who bartended at Jubilee, volunteered to come and run the bar. Patio seating was available for those wanting to sit outside during the

### Help Support Livestream

(even if you watch after the fact):

Donate on-line at:

[www.paypal.me/basinstreetregulars](http://www.paypal.me/basinstreetregulars)

or you can mail a check directly to:

Basin Street Regulars

P.O. Box 356

Pismo Beach, CA, 93448

concert. Even though it was a cold night, there was no wind and the patio had heaters, making it fairly pleasant.

We had just gotten started when Jeff lit a fire to our fireplace. Unbeknownst to us, our son, who had been staying at our house when we went to Fresno, had closed to flu to keep the drafts down. The living room immediately filled with smoke. Some people were forced to evacuate. Jeff got the flu open, but not before the smoke detector started going off in our bedroom. There was general mayhem while Jeff retrieved various fans, opened all of the doors, closed the door to the bedroom and tried to get the smoke out of the living room. Sonny made up a song about the smoke on the spot, which got everyone laughing.

Pretty soon, things went back to normal, though the smell of smoke lingered through the rest of the night. The artists played two sets, sometimes all together or featuring either Sonny or Ethan or Ethan and Valerie. During the break, everyone mingled and got to speak to the artists as well as purchase CDs.

The show ended about 9:00 p.m.; everyone went home satisfied. There were a lot of donations and donations at the bar, so it was well worth it for the musicians.

This show was not Livestreamed, but it was videotaped. The first half was not uploaded due to some camera issues. The second set is available on our Jubilee YouTube channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F91qWmCw9AM>



## When Fresno Met Pismo *How Three Festivals Collaborated to Bring Success to All* Rhonda Cardinal



We were at Jazz Bash by the Bay in Monterey in 2022, living it up and enjoying the first live festival we

had been to since 2019. We did not attend Fresno last year due to conflicts, so this was our first opportunity to get out and enjoy the music and company like we did before you-know-what.

We ran into Linda Shipp and Alfredo Montenegro, directors of the Fresno Festival. I had been told their festival was on hard times and needed a financial boost. I was considering whether our club or ourselves should donate money and how much. Then Linda informed us one of their major costs was going to be the sound company, who had greatly increased their pricing from prior years. The amount she told me they wanted was astonishing, especially for the size of their event; three indoor venues.

On impulse, I told her we would bring sound equipment for them and that Jeff would run it during their 2023 festival, but they also needed to get more volunteers to operate it. This would save them thousands of dollars.

When we got home from Monterey, we called Jim Borland and asked him if he would help out and bring some of his equipment, as needed. He was all in. Over the course of the following year, we spoke to Alfredo occasionally to let them know we were still committed to this offer. In October of 2022, I started to firm things up with Alfredo for Fresno, getting more specifics out of him as to what his needs were.

In November of 2022, we were putting the final details together for Jazz Jubilee by the Sea. We had lost some of our old site captains and volunteers. During one conversation with Alfredo, I told him we would be happy to help them with their festival; but needed Site Captains for ours. A partnership was formed. Alfredo and Linda agreed to come and be Site Captains for Jazz Jubilee by the Sea in exchange for the Pismo crew to come and run sound for Fresno. We also contacted Sylvia Diaz and Robin Castro from Three Rivers. Sylvia had been Site Captain at the Vet's in 2019 and had done an excellent job. It took some convincing, but

they also agreed to come down. We put all of them up in some “comped” hotel rooms from the Pismo Beach Hospitality Assoc., for which they were very grateful. Linda Shipp was unable to make it, but Alfredo, Robin and Sylvia manned the Grover Beach Community Center for the weekend. They brought decorations and enthusiasm to this venue and made it one of the happening places to be.

As soon as Pismo was concluded, it was time to concentrate on Fresno. A few things changed from what we had originally planned. The three-venue festival got closer to being a four-venue festival; the Atrium was going to be used for an All-Star High School band and they wanted a full sound system, instead of the limited system we were planning to put there. Some of the volunteers Alfredo had expected to be there were not able to commit.

I started to look for other volunteers. One of the ways Alfredo sweetened the deal was by offering hotel rooms at the Doubletree (where the festival was taking place) for all participants. I was able to enlist the BSR members Borlands and the Bulls. Ronney Wong, who had volunteered at Pismo also said he wanted to participate. I still felt like we were short for a festival running from 10:00 in the morning until 11:30 at night on Friday and Saturday. Alfredo was getting nervous and was starting to re-initiate negotiations with the original sound company. I finally called Desmond Warren, the owner of DSR Audio. He rents us our sound equipment and helps us run it at Jubilee every year. I told him what we were doing and that we really needed some more people to help us man the boards.

Desmond offered to bring a sound system for the biggest room and run it all weekend. He would not charge for his time, but he wanted a hotel room and his expenses covered. The deal was made; and we were back in business. We now had enough people to have coverage at all of our venues.

A week later, Juliann Hemphill volunteered to come up for a day and a half, and she was able to bring David Venturini, who would join us as a trainee. We had our team.

On the Wednesday before the festival, Jeff and I rented a 9-foot van and loaded three systems of equipment. Desmond loaded his van with his gear and we drove up and met at the hotel that evening.

Thursday, the work began in earnest, unloading and setting up all of the equipment. Ronney arrived early in the day and helped Desmond set up and later run his venue. I helped Jeff. At noon, the Borlands showed up and later

on, the Bulls. By 6:00, when the Thursday night show started, everything was ready.

Friday was a long day, with the most total hours on the schedule. But what a fun festival Fresno is. They have two or three parades every day and at get at least 50% participation from the attendees, sporting very elaborate costumes and props. And Sylvia and Robin from Three Rivers, also volunteering, treated us very well, delivering special drinks as needed.

In fact, Fresno is the best party festival around and has the most audience participation I have seen. They have honed their unique traditions for many years, including themes and lavish decorations, coronations, parades and overall mayhem. It is easier for them to sustain these traditions since all of their venues are in one place, especially the parades. They just go from one venue to the next, hijacking each room when they arrive.

Being in one location means they have a bar they can meet up at afterwards, and they can schedule late sets since few people have to drive elsewhere at the end of the night. The organizers were very hospitable to the volunteers willing and able to stay up late; offering us drinks, pizza and snacks until well after midnight. In short, we had an excellent time.

Saturday was an easier day, with two of the venues shutting down after 6:00 p.m. The two remaining venues, however, stayed open until 11:30 p.m. Saturday evening, many of the Pismo sound people were able to have dinner together, due to the arrival of some of Alfredo’s friends from Arizona who were able to make it after all and sub for some of us.

On Sunday, one of the venues was open until 1:00 p.m., which Jeff ran. The Borlands and the Bulls started breaking the other two down Sunday morning. Desmond’s was open until 3:30. Ronney had to leave, but David assisted Desmond and got



*Desmond and David at Work*

to run the board for part of that day.

The Borlands and the Bulls left Sunday afternoon, taking David with them. Jeff and I started loading all of our equipment into the van, which was not as big as it should have been. Trying to fit everything back in was a puzzle that was incredibly time consuming. We were not finished when Desmond's venue shut down at 3:30, and then we went to help him button up his equipment. Of course, we borrowed equipment from each other at the start of the operation, complicating everything during the loading, unloading and reloading process. It was 6:00 p.m. before everything was back in the vehicles.

Desmond elected to stay Sunday night and get an early start on Monday. Jeff and I were ready to go home. After all, we had a house concert to prepare for on Thursday.

In summary, we did a lot of work and we had a lot of fun. There was a lot of camaraderie between all of the sound people and other volunteers, and the Fresno crew was very grateful and treated us very well. I believe we saved them about \$5000, even with them paying our expenses and van rental. Would we do it all again? Well, maybe we would let Desmond rent them the equipment and we would help run it. In spite of the work, it was a very rewarding experience for all of us and it helped out a festival in need, as they helped us.

The cooperation between the Directors of Pismo, Fresno and Three Rivers is a model for the future and will help us all continue to operate for at least a few more years. It gave us a glimpse into the management of other local festivals and an opportunity to contribute and have fun as well. I expect that our relationship will only grow as time goes on. **Rhonda**

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership is due. Please pay before April 1st. If you have not already paid, you can pay online by going to our website, [www.pismojazz.com](http://www.pismojazz.com). If you do pay online please print the Hold Harmless Membership form, fill it out, sign it and mail it to me. It is important to sign it. If you have not signed the form, you will be asked to do so at our Sunday Session. You can also mail us your membership payment along with the form. If you need the form, contact me and I will be happy to send it to you. I will be at the Sunday Session collecting memberships. Please print the membership form, fill it out and sign it before coming to save time.

We currently have **167** members, and **45** are Silver Members. **We will publish an updated Silver Member List next month!** We ended the 2022 year with **313** members and **67** of them were Silver Members. We would like to welcome all our new members to BSR. Our new members are Beverly & Chris Johnson and David & Karen Edmunson. We hope you will enjoy the music as much as we do.

On our Facebook pages we have 1056 followers on the BSR page and 5964 followers on the Jubilee page. Our YouTube Channels have 741 subscribers on the BSR channel and 92 subscribers on the Jubilee channel. It doesn't cost anything to follow on Facebook or to subscribe to YouTube. Did you know with enough subscribers on YouTube it could lead us to getting some added cash? Please hit the subscribe and follow buttons. We also have a growing Instagram account with 358 followers. If you have any questions about membership or need forms, please contact me at Shonda

### Dues Will Go Up in April

As part of our efforts to more closely match our income with our expenses, we will be raising the dues, effective April 1<sup>st</sup>. The Board met in February to address this issue, and these increases were ratified during that meeting. We still think that we are a great deal for entertainment and trust you will understand our reasons for doing this. We have other strategies planned to further increase our membership and income; this is just one of several methods we are using to defray our costs.

<i>Couples: From \$40 to \$60</i>	<i>Student: Remains at \$20</i>	<i>Silver Members: From \$100. to \$150.</i>
<i>Singles: From \$25. To \$35.</i>	<i>Family: From \$50 to \$75.</i>	

### Door Fees Will Also Increase in April

With the same concerns and rational, we also need to increase door fees. Here are the changes:

<i>Members: From \$5.00 to \$10.00</i>	<i>Non-Members: From \$10.00 to \$15.00</i>
<i>Jammers: (Who are not Silver Members): From \$.00 to \$5.00</i>	

## February Show

by Rhonda Cardinal

Our usual Sunday session reporter was kept busy last month taking memberships and didn't have a chance to work up her usual report of the proceedings. Keep those memberships flowing in!



The Cuesta College Jazz Band put on a

remarkable performance, playing some standards and some modern pieces. They brought some young dancers to the house, who thoroughly enjoyed the music. Ron McCarley is an old pro and led them through each piece with flair. We passed the hat for this band and collected over \$400.



The Cuesta Band was followed by perennial favorite Cell Block 7. They have not graced our house since February 2020; the last band on the Vet's Hall stage before the



great shut down of 2020. It was a pleasure to welcome them back after three years. Bob Romans, the leader, was not able to make it as

he was celebrating his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in Lodi! But the band sounded great anyway, playing their usual mix of eclectic tunes not often heard, jazz standards reimagined and a few modern pieces. There was a parasol tune at the end of



each set, generating a very enthusiastic parade. Cell Block 7 also recently performed at Jazz Bash by the Bay,

where they were warmly received. There is no video of this performance, unfortunately.

To see recordings from the 2023 Jubilee event and other previous BSR shows, go to our website, <http://pismojazz.com/> and scroll down until you see the link for the BasinStreetRegulars YouTube Channel. Or go directly to: <https://www.youtube.com/user/BasinStreetRegulars/>. You can also see it on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/BasinStreetRegulars> and look under videos. And while you're at it, check out all of our videos, starting with the most recently uploaded.



## Trad Jazz Festivals on the Calendar

Jazzaffair (Three Rivers, CA) April 14-16

Hot Jazz Jubilee (Sacramento, CA) Sept 1st-4th

Redwood Coast Music Festival (Eureka, CA)  
Oct 5th - 9th

Sun Valley Jazz Festival (ID) Oct 18th - 22nd

AZ Classic Jazz Festival (Chandler) Nov 2nd - 5th

San Diego Jazz Festival (canceled indefinitely)

## Sunshine

Sandy Smallwood sends sympathy and get-well cards to our members/families on behalf of BSR. If you know someone who needs a little support, please contact Sandy at (805) 458-7892.



# Basin Street Regulars, Inc.

a.k.a. "The Central Coast Hot Jazz Society"

P.O. Box 356

Pismo Beach, CA 93448



## 077 BEAT

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Please LIKE our Facebook pages! We have three: Basin Street Regulars, Pismo Jazz Jubilee and Rhonda BSR Cardinal. Subscribe to our YouTube channel—Basin Street Regulars. On Instagram we are #basinstreetregulars! Don't miss out on photos and videos from our Sunday Sessions and from the Jazz Jubilee By the Sea.



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### Upcoming Events:

*Basin Street Regulars  
Sunday Session*

*Featuring*

*Big Sirs of Swing*

*with the*

*Righetti HS Jazz Band*

*as Opening Act*

12:50 - 1:45

March 26th

11:00 AM Jam Session

Pismo Beach Vets Hall

*Tickets at my805tix.com*